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SECOND NEWS SECTION VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1959

Prove Your Statements Or Resign, Chant Chided

The resignation of Public Works Minister W. N. Chant, unless he can back up his anti-labor statements, was demanded in the legislature yesterday.

"The remarks of the minister of public works were unwarranted and I believe it is only ethical when a person in such a responsible position as this makes such charges that he should be ready to back them up or resign," said Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook.)

'HOODLUM GANGSTER'

Mr. Chant said "union leaders in some quarters have replaced bootlegging, the rackets and gambling as the recognized domain of the hoodlum gangster."

"When Mr. (Gordon) Gibson was in this House you (Socreds) immediately asked him to prove his statement that 'money talks' and because he did not have the proof at that time, he resigned," Mr. Nimsick pointed out.

HEARTY CHUCKLES

"People in glass houses should not throw stones. When you realize that 9 per cent of the first Social Credit cabinet in B.C. was convicted of accepting bribes, you can feel proud of the very minute percentage of the labor movement that has fallen foul of the law in this respect." Mr. Nimsick said. His remark brought hearty chuckles from both sides of the House.

Mr. Nimsick reminded the House that Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan had said nothing was done by the cabinet regarding the Sommers bribery case, because they did not wish to throw anyone to the wolves.

THROW ANYBODY

"The facts do not bear this out. I submit you will throw anybody to the wolves if it suits your purpose," Mr. Nimsick charged.

"How about Mr. Jamieson (former sergeant-at-arms and engineer who was sent to inspect Stewart-Cassiar Road, and after making his report, was fired)? You had no compunction when it came to him.

REFUSED PROBE

"You know as well as I do that as an engineer he was bringing before this government evidence of corruption," he charged. "Here again you refused a full investigation into the Stewart-Cassiar Road deal.

"You thought nothing of having Mr. Briggs fired when he had the courage to tell the people what was going on," he said.

LONG IN GUTTER

"You people have been in the gutter a long time . . . it hurts and irritates members to learn the truth," he charged.

Speaker Hugh Shantz ruled the word gutter was not to be used in the House again.

Mr. Nimsick maintained that the mines minister's statement they have no desire to throw anyone to the wolves was "hollow."

CASTING SHADOW

"When it came to casting a shadow over themselves, they were satisfied to sweep all the dirt under the carpet with the hope that by some mysterious circumstance, it would disappear," he said.

"They even went to the country in 1956 to win an election before the carpet could be lifted. To me, such connivings and misuse of people's trust discounts all the pious approaches that are taken."

This is fire-damaged dwelling of pensioner Ernest E. Burton, at 4075 Grange, as Saanich firemen killed last of blaze yesterday afternoon.

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Old Man Homeless

Fire Guts Cabin, Pensioner Flees

An aged Saanich pensioner was left homeless yesterday afternoon when fire burned out the interior of his small home at 4075 Grange Road.

Ernest E. Burton, 79, served overseas with the Royal Canadian Engineers in the First World War, and is a 90 per cent disability pensioner.

LIGHTING CIGARET

He was lighting a cigaret when the blaze broke out about 5 p.m. Firemen believe a spark from his match landed in one of two large, open match boxes on a nearby table in the kitchen.

Flames, water and smoke left the interior of the dwelling a shambles, but as firemen dug into corners to extinguish the last embers, a pot-bellied stove in the living room still burned briskly, working to warm a thoroughly chilled house.

When neighbors first arrived, Mr. Burton was standing outside the home, pouring water from a pitcher into the inferno.

Neighbors were concerned about the elderly man's pets. He had about seven cats, four of which were usually in or about the house at any time. The body of one cat was found in the smoke-filled interior after the fire was brought under control.

Unhurt himself, but cold and worried about his cats, Mr. Burton was taken to the nearby home of Saanich Police Cpl. Edward Anderson. Later he was taken by friends to Veterans' Hospital, where not long ago he underwent an operation.

No estimate was available last night on the amount of damage to building or contents.

ERNEST E. BURTON
. . . feared for cats

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$29,540 Slash Allowed

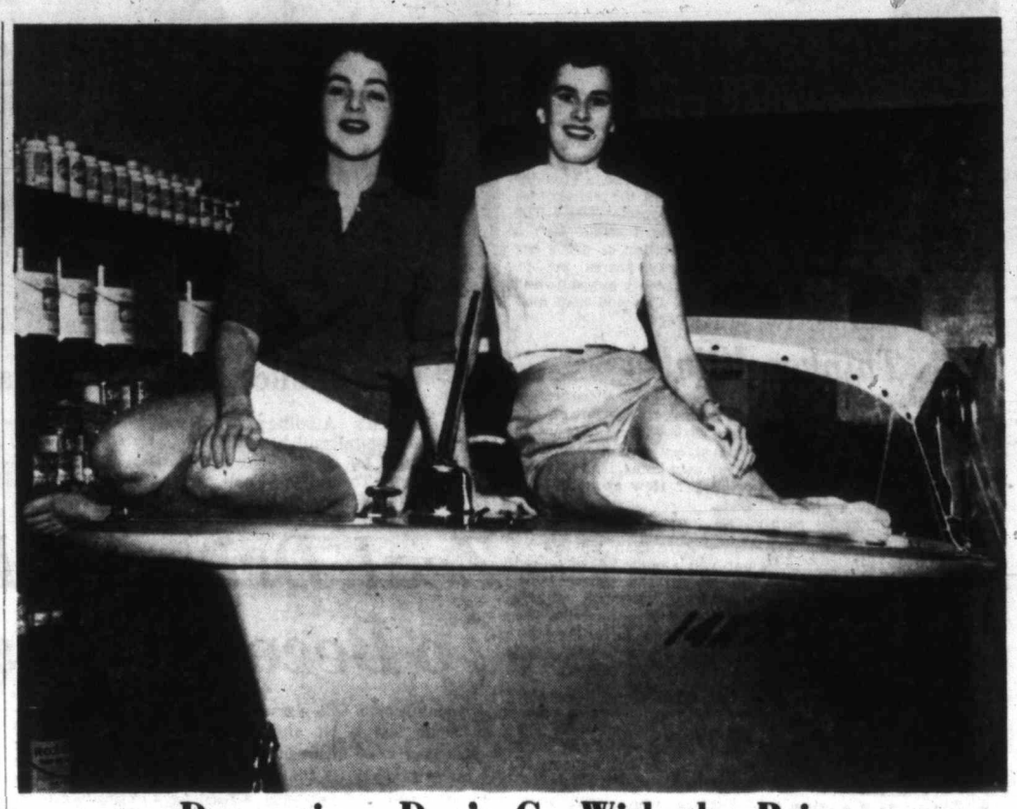
Assessment of the Crowe-Gonnason mill property on Government was reduced $29,540 yesterday by the court of revision for School District 61.

The court accepted arguments of representatives of the company in liquidation that some of the buildings were unuseable and of no value and that sprinkler systems were disconnected.

CNR PROTEST

The court upheld the assessments in another major Victoria case, the protest of Canadian National Railways against the valuation placed on two parcels of Victoria West land.

The CNR claimed the assessments should be reduced because use of the land was restricted and it could not be sub-let or sold, and because the railway tracks enhanced the value of nearby land but not of the property itself.



Decorations Don't Go With the Prize

Sorry, fellows, these girls don't go with the boat. Kinettes Diana Mercer, left, and Freda Willie show possible use of craft which will be given as door prize during Kinsmen Boat Show, April 16, 17 and 18 in the Curling Rink. Starting Saturday, boat will be displayed on Safeway lots around Victoria. Vic-Van Isle Kinsmen Club officials say there is plenty of space for small exhibitors who should make application to Charles Hewitt, P.O. Box 904, Victoria.—(Colonist photo.)

Around the Island

UBC Weekend Rally Set for Parksville

PARKSVILLE—The Island Hall Hotel at Parksville will be the scene this weekend of the third annual academic symposium of the University of British Columbia.

It is anticipated about 90 to 100 students and 35 professors from UBC and faculty members and students of Victoria College will be on hand for the three-day session.

Dr. Roy Daniels of the English department, UBC, will be chairman of the welcoming committee and students will arrive Friday morning.

Matters to be discussed will be the responsibility of the community to the university, of the university to the general public, and of the university to its students.

Consideration will be given to a possible university fee increase and by what means such an increase should be met, such as government, corporation business, private revenue or by the students themselves.

Another subject will be the continuous question of UBC's dual responsibility in producing technicians as opposed to educating in general knowledge.

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NANAIMO—The number of escapes from Brannan Lake Industrial School in comparison with the number of inmates has dropped substantially in the last five years, Supt. F. G. Hassard said yesterday. He was commenting on criticism of the school in the legislature by Mrs. Buda Brown (SC—Vancouver-Point Grey).

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CAMPBELL RIVER—In the first case of its kind here boat owner Arthur Chickite was fined $75 in police court after being found guilty of operating a boat while impaired by alcohol.

Police said he was the operator of a boat that rammed a small troller at Cape Mudge. The troller had to be beached and was "a total loss," police said.

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NANAIMO—Decision on the appeal of MacMillan & Bloedel Ltd. against the $12,000,000 assessment of four company-owned tree farms, was reserved here yesterday by a court of revision.

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DUNCAN — A proposal to move the government liquor store from its present location on Canada Avenue to the Island Highway, is being protested by the Duncan-Cowichan Chamber of Commerce and individual businessmen.

The move is being protested on the ground that it will tend to break up the present main shopping and business centre of the city.

Traffic conditions at the location of the present store was cited by the Liquor Control Board in Victoria as one reason for consideration of a move.

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NANAIMO — Les Corfield was named president of Nanaimo Cancer Society. Other officers: Mrs. C. C. Brown and Harold Wrinch, vice-presidents; Miss Ruth Leech, secretary, and John Jickling, treasurer.

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CAMPBELL RIVER—A verdict of accidental death was returned by the jury at an inquest here yesterday into the logging camp death of Robert Robertson, 28, of Nanaimo.

The court was told the Nanaimo man was fatally injured at a Bute Inlet logging operation when he was crushed under a 16-ton truck being used to yank out a huge cedar stump.

The inquest jury added a recommendation that "no truck should be moved without a signal being given."

Body of the accident victim was taken to Nanaimo for burial.

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NANAIMO — According to school trustee J. W. Manion, the arrival of a senior medical health officer in Nanaimo has again been delayed.

He told the District 68 school board that Dr. C. J. McKenzie of Trail would not assume responsibilities in the Central Vancouver Island Health Unit until April. The unit has been without a health officer since Dec. 31.

A health department official told the Union Board of Health last month that Dr. McKenzie would be here by Easter."

Mr. Manion said that comparatively low salaries in the public health organization was making recruiting of staff difficult.

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DUNCAN — A further expansion of the city's shopping area is being planned. A Vancouver firm has negotiated successfully with the Indian Department for approximately an acre and a half of land adjoining the Safeway Store on Trunk Road.

The new shopping area would be the same size as the Safeway lease and would be occupied by a group of six store units. While on Indian Reserve land, the new unit, as well as the present Safeway Store, are included in the city boundary through a recent extension of the city area to take in more than 200 acres of Indian Reserve land.

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NANAIMO—District 68 school board has voted five to four to reduce the walking limit for grades 7, 8 and 9 students from three to two miles.

The board will have to pay the $16,000 cost for new bus facilities as the provincial government's policy is to share transportation costs only beyond a three-mile limit.

No announcement was made when the service might start and the question is being studied by the transportation committee.

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PORT ALBERNI—Rites will be held in Grace Lutheran Church at 3 p.m., Saturday, for Mrs. Mary Anne Johnson, who died Tuesday in West Coast General Hospital.

A long-time resident of this district, she was born in Norway 76 years ago.

Mrs. Johnson is survived by her husband, Hans, four daughters, Mrs. Elma Robertson, Mrs. W. G. Brown, Mrs. Ole Olson, of this district, and Mrs. Myrtle Kuzik of Vancouver, nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

JACK FELTON

Seen In Passing

Jack Felton re-stating the old adage that an apple a day keeps the doctor away. (A former real estate agent, he has been in the grocery business for one week. He and his wife **Isabel** have two children, **John**, 16, and **Michael** 9. His hobbies are stamp collecting and fishing) . . . **Ray Wormald** talking on the telephone . . . **Don Paulin** coming out of the customs building . . . **Fred Zeer** planting strawberries . . . **Alec Nicol** discussing shrimps and steelhead . . . **Capt. Harry Coull** watching some happy militia men on pay parade . . . **Jim Napper** waiting for his wife, **Evelyn** . . . **Sid Gault** complaining about the lights going out in his office . . . **Pete Adlum** and **Ken Reid** chatting at Bay Street Armory.

Bus Service Cutback Not Likely

Evening bus service in Greater Victoria seems fairly safe from reduction even if the B.C. Electric is considering a cutback in Vancouver.

A Victoria company official would not deny the situation was being studied because, he said, the number of passengers and the service given on the bus routes were under continuous study.

But, he said, "I don't think the subject is being given more attention now than it was a few months ago."

Defence Meeting

Greater Victoria Civil Defence Control Board will meet this morning at its headquarters.

House Saved

Flames Checked By Garden Hose

A tenant held a house fire in check with a garden hose until firemen arrived to extinguish the blaze at 1746 Adanac about 7.15 last night.

BLAZ MLINAR
. . . kept fire at bay

Blaz Mlinar, warned by another tenant, found flames leaping along the ceiling above an over-heated furnace in a back room of his ground-floor apartment.

He used a garden hose to keep the fire from spreading.

The alarm was spread by Mrs. Milka Prsa, who smelled smoke while writing a letter in the apartment above. Her husband, Ivan Prsa, was watching television in the Mlinar apartment at the time. Neither man smelled any smoke.

Firemen said little damage was done to the home.

Concession Hinted For Jaycees

City council might be willing to make "some concession"—a grant toward the cost of renting the Memorial Arena—to the Junior Chamber of Commerce in its attempt to raise funds for a new ice surface, Acting Mayor Arthur Dowell said yesterday.

The campaign to raise $123,000 for a second rink will be launched with a two-night ice show at the arena Feb. 23 and 24, and the Jaycees have expressed surprise and annoyance about the arena commission planning to charge the full regular rental of $1,250 for the two nights.

PLAN SUPPORTED

"After all, said Roy Baker of the Junior Chamber, "they've come out publicly in support of our plan and eventually the 'Kids' Annex' will be all theirs."

The acting mayor, Ald. Austin Curtis, and arena commissioner C. C. Wyatt all said the commission received many requests for reduced rentals from deserving organizations and would be in trouble if it set a precedent.

Pensioners Protest *'He Doesn't Know'*

Bruch Remark Draws Fire

By TED SHACKLEFORD

MLA Herbert Bruch's suggestion Tuesday that pensioners should live on the outskirts of Victoria has drawn fire from several Colonist readers.

"Mr. Bruch doesn't know what he is talking about," Robert French, president of the Old-Age Pensioners' Association No. 1, said yesterday.

"We old people are not able to move around, owing to infirmities and must stay around the city where they can walk to get their supplies. Transportation from the outskirts would take too much out of their pensions.

"I wonder if Mr. Bruch would kindly tell us where the accommodations are in the outskirts of our city."

Another, Richard T. Clegg, wrote from the Veterans' Hospital, asking what kind of places pensioners could find outside the city.

"Then again, most pensioners are in bad health, some on sticks. For the life of me I can't see his point at all. Guess he never was very hard pushed—nice soft job.

"Who would move them if a place was found, not too far from stores? Would he help? I doubt it very much."

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Yesterday I had a late breakfast of cornflakes with reconstituted milk and sugar, pancakes with margarine and marmalade, and two cups of coffee. I bought a cup of coffee and a packet of salted nuts during the afternoon and dinner was three bowls of soup with toast and two more cups of coffee.

I have also bought two other cups of coffee, another bag of salted nuts, and this all reduces my finances to $11.11 for the next eight days.

As I am nearing the end of my month's assignment I am trying as far as possible to use up what food I have to avoid having to buy more. For breakfast today I will probably eat what I did yesterday.

Colonist reporter Ted Shackleford has been assigned to live on $55 for a month to discover how senior citizens on old-age assistance payments live and what their probems are.

He will be available in The Daily Colonist office—EV 4-4111 — between 4 and 5 p.m. each day.